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09/920,756	08/03/2001	Jason Paul Irwin	9361	5974
26884	7590	12/13/2007	EXAMINER	
PAUL W. MARTIN			DINH, KHANH Q	
NCR CORPORATION, LAW DEPT.				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/920,756	IRWIN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Khanh Dinh	2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11 and 17-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 and 17-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the Amendment and Remark filed on 9/27/2007. Claims 1-11 and 17-23 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
3. Claim 4 recites the limitation "said storage device" in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
5. Claims 1-11 and 17-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paul, US pat. No.6,687,817 in view of Williams et al, US pat. No.5,945,988.

As to claim 1, Paul discloses a computer-implemented method of configuring a point of sale (POS) terminal to execute a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a first local storage device and storing generic configuration settings in a memory (writing network configuration into a file on the first device such as laptop device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 32-55 and col.3 lines 19-46);

conducting an automated search for and retrieval of computer system specific settings by the terminal (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device sending a “configuration pending” message from the configuration device to mark the message for the new device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the automated search and retrieval comprising:

determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a second local storage device (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast messages, see fig.7, col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28), if said first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on said storage device, copying said first computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory (see col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11);

determining if second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on network devices accessed through a network; if said second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on the network device, copying said second computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory, setting a boot status setting and rebooting said POS terminal to execute the handheld platform operating software according to computer specific configuration settings stored in said memory (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume and using system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs.2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database and configured to control each of the entertainment system components of system in a communications network.

As to claim 2, Paul discloses the second computer system specific configuration settings include at least one of first computer system specific configuration settings (see col.6 lines 1-46).

As to claim 3, Paul discloses the configuration settings identify configuration settings to be stored (see col.5 lines 3-67).

As to claim 4, Paul discloses a computer-implemented method of configuring a POS terminal to execute a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a first local storage device and storing generic configuration settings in a memory (writing network configuration into a file on the first device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 40-55 and col.3 lines 19-46);

conducting an automated search for and retrieval of computer system specific settings by the terminal (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device and sending a “configuration pending” message from the configuration device to mark the message for the device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the automated search and retrieval comprising:

determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a second local storage device (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast messages, see fig.7, col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11 and col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28 and col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11);

if said first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on said storage device, copying said first computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory, setting a boot status setting and rebooting said POS terminal to execute the handheld platform operating software according to computer specific configuration settings stored in said memory (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings

including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume and using system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs.2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database and configured to control each of the entertainment system components of system in a communications network.

As to claim 5, Paul discloses a computer implemented method of configuring a POS terminal to execute a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a storage device and storing generic configuration settings in a memory (writing network configuration into a file on the first device such as laptop device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 32-55 and col.3 lines 19-46);

conducting an automated search for and retrieval of computer system specific settings by the terminal (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device sending a "configuration pending" message from the configuration device to mark the message for the device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the automated search and retrieval comprising:

determining if a connection is available to the terminal; if a network connection is available, determining if second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network device, transmitting a request directed to a specifically identified device on which the settings are stored to obtain the second computer specific configuration settings (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast and configuration setting messages, see fig.7, col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11 and col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28);

if said second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network, copying said second computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory, setting a boot status setting and rebooting said POS terminal to execute the handheld platform operating software according to computer specific configuration settings stored in said memory (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume, see abstract, fig.2, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line32). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database in a communications network.

As to claim 6, Paul discloses a computer implemented comprising the steps of:

loading generic configuration settings, conducting an automated search for and retrieval of computer system specific settings (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device sending a “configuration pending” message from the configuration device to mark the message for the device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the automated search including determining whether the terminal is connected to a storage device accessible to the terminal through a direct connection between the terminal and the storage device (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast and configuration messages, see fig.7, col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28);

and method of configuring a computer system loading computer system-specific configuration settings executing handheld platform operating software (writing network configuration into a file on the first device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 32-55 and col.3 lines 19-46); and rebooting the POS terminal to execute the handheld platform operating software according to the loaded computer computer-specific configuration settings (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user

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including volume and using system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs.2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database and configured to control each of the entertainment system components of system in a communications network.

As to claim 7, Paul discloses system-specific configuration settings are read from a storage device accessed over a network (see col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11).

As to claim 8, Paul discloses computer system-specific configuration settings are read from a storage device and loading computer system-specific configuration settings from a network device accessed over a network (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50).

As to claim 9, Paul discloses computer system-specific configuration settings from the network (see col.5 lines 3-38).

As to claim 10, Williams discloses configuration settings including at least one of: color depth, peripheral device, delay period, communication port and baud rate settings for the POS terminal (see col.7 line 42 to col.8 line 48). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database in a communications network.

Claim 11 is rejected for the same reasons set forth in claim 3.

As to claim 17, Paul discloses a computer-implemented method of storing configuration settings of a POS terminal to executing a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

performing an automated search by the terminal to determine if a storage device is connected to the POS terminal to executing a handheld platform operating software (writing network configuration into a file on the first network device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 32-55 and col.3 line 19 to col.4 line 11) (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast and configuration messages, see fig.7, col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28);

if the storage device is connected to the computer system, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the storage device (see col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11);

performing an automated search by the terminal to determine if the computer system is connected to a network connection having a computer system; and if the network connection having a computer system is connected to the POS terminal, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the computer system (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35). Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor

in the terminal. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume and using system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs.2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database and configured to control each of the entertainment system components of system in a communications network.

As to claim 18, Paul discloses a computer implemented method of storing configuration settings of a POS terminal comprising the steps of:

receiving a specified event at the POS terminal and performing an automated search by the POS terminal for computer specific configuration settings (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device sending a "configuration pending" message from the configuration device to mark the message for the device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the search including determining if computer system specific configuration settings are available for retrieval from a storage device

(writing network configuration into a file on the first network device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 32-55 and col.3 lines 19-46 and col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28); and

if computer system specific configuration settings are available for retrieval from a storage device connected to the POS terminal, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the POS terminal (see col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings and coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume and using system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs.2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database and configured to control each of the entertainment system components of system in a communications network.

As to claim 19, Paul discloses specified event includes at least one of expiration of a delay period and computer system shutdown (see col.5 lines 3-67).

As to claim 20, Paul discloses a computer implemented method of storing configuration settings of a POS terminal comprising the steps of:

receiving a specified event at the POS terminal (writing network configuration into a file on the first device, see fig.3, col.1 lines 40-55 and col.3 lines 19-46);

performing an automated search by the POS terminal for computer specific configuration settings (generating a worldwide unique identifier placed in the configuration request for use in subsequent transmissions to the new device sending a “configuration pending” message from the configuration device to mark the message for the device, see col.3 line 29 to col.4 line 11), the search including determining if the POS terminal executing handheld platform operating software is connected to a network connection having a computer system and if the POS terminal is connected through a network connection, determining if computer system specific configuration settings are available for retrieval from a specifically identified storage device through the network and transmitting a request directed to a specifically identified device on which the settings are stored to obtain the second computer specific configuration settings (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast and configuration setting messages, see fig.7, see col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11 and col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28); and

if the POS terminal executing a handheld platform operating software is connected to the network connection having a computer system and computer system specific configuration settings are available for retrieval through the network and upon obtaining the computer system-specific configuration settings and storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the

POS terminal (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast and configuration setting messages, see fig.7, col.3 line 47 to col.4 line 11 and col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28).

Paul does not specifically disclose computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings. However, Williams discloses computer system specific configuration settings including at least one of brightness, volume, and energy saving settings (configures system configuration settings of system in accordance with the user preference information found in the user profile corresponding to the identified user including volume, see abstract, fig.2, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32). It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Williams's teachings into the computer system of Paul to update user preference data information because it would have enabled users to monitor and update a wide range of configurable options in a profile database in a communications network.

As to claim 21, Paul discloses that specified event includes at least one of expiration of a delay period and computer system shutdown (see col.5 lines 3-67).

Claim 22 is rejected for the same reasons set forth in claim 18.

As to claim 23, Paul discloses sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to determine if the POS terminal is connected to a network connection having a computer system providing access to computer system specific configuration settings

and if the POS terminal is connected to the network connection having a computer system providing access to computer system specific configuration settings, store the computer system-specific configuration settings to the computer system (see fig.4, col.4 lines 12-50 and col.5 lines 4-35).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 9/27/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- In claim 1, the Applicant asserts that the cited reference does not disclose determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a second local storage device accessible by the terminal through a direct connection between the terminal and the storage device.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Firstly, the limitation “accessible by the terminal through a direct connection between the terminal and the storage device” is canceled by the present amendment. Secondly, Examiner respectfully point out that Paul discloses the Applicant claimed invention as accessible to the terminal through a direct connection between the terminal and the storage device determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a storage device (connecting the terminal and the storage device through a network to provide multicast messages and configuring network settings by the operating system of a device to be added to a network. For example, the new device begins the normal boot sequence

including configuring the new device for multicast operations, see fig.7, col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28) as rejected above.

- Applicant asserts that the cited reference does not disclose the new limitation “coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal”.

Examiner respectfully point out that Williams discloses coupling by a bus to a processor in the terminal (configures system configuration settings of system controller 500 includes high performance input/output (I/O) bus 506 and standard I/O bus 508, and host bridge 510 coupling processor 502 to high performance I/O bus 506,, see abstract, figs. 2, 5, col.5 line 30 to col.6 line 32 and col.11 line 45 to col.12 line 61).

- Applicant asserts that the cited reference does not disclose determining if the network is available to the terminal.

Examiner respectfully point out that Paul discloses determining if the network is available to the terminal (new device) (in fig.7, using the multicast setup program to read setup data a file or files stored on disk containing network configuration data which contain a list of valid configurations for new devices such as the NAS device added to the network. The human operator utilizes the configuration data by using a graphical user interface or from a file or files containing network configuration data for new devices, see fig.7, col.5 line 38 to col.6 line 28). Therefore, the rejection is respectfully maintained.

As a result, cited prior art does disclose a system and method a computer implemented method of storing configuration settings of a POS terminal, as broadly claimed by the Applicants. Applicants clearly have still failed to identify specific claim limitations that would define a clearly patentable distinction over prior art.

Conclusion

7. Claims 1-11 and 17-23 are rejected.
8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3936. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.m. to 5:00 P.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung, can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Khánh Định
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